

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
INFORMATION REPORT

REPORT

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SUBJECT The 59th Soviet Signals Regiment

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1. The 59th Signals Regiment (OPS, Otdel'ny Polk Sviazy) was formed between 1941 and 1945 in Novosibirsk, but is now located in Baden, Austria (049/X37), in barracks of the former German Projector Institute in the southern part of the town near the Baden - Bad Vooslau train tracks. The full title of the regiment is the 59th Order of the Red Star and the Alexander Nevsky Lvov Separate Communications Regiment.
2. The total strength of the regiment is approximately 550 persons. In addition to the two battalions, the regiment has a training school for sergeants, an automobile squad and a small unit known as the "Kross" workers who are responsible for electricity supply for the telephone and telegraph equipment of the regiment. The two battalions are respectively the radio battalion and the telegraph-telephone battalion. The latter, battalion is divided into two companies, each of which is staffed with approximately 70 privates and non-commissioned officers.
3. Company no. 1 of the telegraph-telephone battalion is divided into three platoons. The first and third of these are staffed with experienced men, most of whom are sergeants, who service the equipment and act as qualified telegraphists. The second platoon consists mainly of new recruits, 21 and 22 years old. They are engaged in a teletype training course using the two types of equipment available to the regiment, the 2BDA-43 and the ST-35. Because the students do sentry duty and perform various administrative services in addition to their studies, the course lasts longer than the usual six months. Company no. 2 of the telegraph-telephone battalion performs service and personnel functions, though a portion of this company goes through instruction in the training school.

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25 YEAR RE-REVIEW

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The telegraph-telephone battalion, also called the Central Telephone Station (Tsentral'naya Telefonnaya Stantsiya), is located in the Communications Center of the Central Army Group in Baden. The Communications Center is housed in a gray three or four storied building which has a sentry box at the entrance between the Austrian theater and a church. The major portion of the working apparatus of the 59th OPS is located in this building, including all the telegraph and telephone lines servicing Soviet troops in Austria and Hungary and the line to Moscow from the Central Army Group.

5. The equipment used by the regiment is of two types, the BODO or 2BDA-43 and the ST-35. [redacted] the 2nd Bodo 25X1
 Duplex Army year 1943, [redacted]
 [redacted] The equipment is Soviet manufactured and has five keys and one register. The paper ribbon is of standard Soviet size, 1.5 centimeters wide. The set has two head phones, one for transmitting and one for receiving. The ST-35 (Soviet sky Telegraf 1935 year) differs from the Bodo set in that it has a keyboard like a typewriter. [redacted] 25X1
 [redacted] 25X1
6. Two rooms are provided for the telephone division on the second floor of the Central Army Group building. The first room holds six to eight machines of the Bodo type and the second room holds six ST-35 machines. Telegrams are usually transmitted in Russian letters, though a small portion are sent in Morse code.
7. One of the Bodo machines differs from the others in that it transmits mechanically (the ordinary Bodo is hand-operated.) The special machine has a paper ribbon, yellowish-rose in color and 30 to 35 mm. wide. It has rows of round holes spaced irregularly throughout its length. The holes are of three different diameters ranging from 1 to 2.5 mm. The ribbon automatically depresses the designated levers when it is run through the machine. [redacted] 25X1
 [redacted] the machine sends messages automatically encoded which are received by a similar machine in Moscow. All the encoded telegrams received on the machine in Baden are directed to the coding division of the Counter Intelligence Administration (Upravleniye Kontrrazvedky) of the MGB, Central Army Group in Baden. The paper ribbons with the special holes are brought by couriers from the UKR, Central Army Group, for transmission to Moscow. The couriers travel on foot or on motorcycles and are accompanied by one armed guard.
8. Personalities of the 59th OPS:
Guards Lt Col fnu Fedotkin, CO of the 59th OPS: [redacted]
 [redacted]
Lt Col fnu Andreyev, Staff Officer of the 59th OPS: [redacted] 25X1
 [redacted]
Lt Col fnu Livinenko, acting Chief of the Political Unit: [redacted] 25X1
 [redacted]
Lt Col fnu Medvedev, acting Chief of the Regiment for Technical Affairs (Zamkompolka Po Tehchastv): [redacted] 25X1
 [redacted]
Lt Col fnu Lutsenko, acting Chief of the Regiment, Supply Section; [redacted] 25X1
 [redacted]
Maj fnu Eremin, Secretary of the party organization of the Bolshevik Party: [redacted] 25X1
 [redacted]

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Lt Col fnu Martinov, Chief of the Telephone-Telegraph
Battalion; [REDACTED]

Guard Capt fnu Stepovoi, Chief of the second Telephone-
Telegraph Company; [REDACTED]

Guards Maj fnu Shumenko, Acting chief of the Telephone-
Telegraph Company; [REDACTED]

Capt fnu Yuditsev, MGB counter-intelligence agent; [REDACTED]

Capt fnu Filman, Chief of the Central Telephone Station
(Tsentral'naya Telefonaya Stantsiya); [REDACTED]

Sr Lt fnu Koriakov, Deputy Chief of the first Telephone-
Telegraph Company for Political Affairs; [REDACTED]

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Lt fnu Golovkom, Chief of the second platoon of the first
Telephone-Telegraph Company; [REDACTED]
hair, blue eyes.

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Vladimir Kovrigin, Clerk, second company, Telephone-Telegraph
Battalion; [REDACTED]

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